

Serial No.: 10/673,989  
Examiner: Bastianelli, John  
Art Unit: 3751

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-21 and 41-45 remain in the application. By this amendment claims 22-40 have been withdrawn as being directed to a non-elected invention.

**Election/Restriction Requirement**

The patent office submits that the present application contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct inventions:

- I. Claims 1-21 and 41-45 directed to a valve including a seal ring; and
- II. Claims 22-40 directed to just a seal ring.

In response, applicant elects Invention I for prosecution on the merits.

Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-21 and 41-45 are in condition for allowance and respectfully request such allowance.

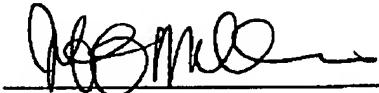
Claims 22-40 have been withdrawn at this time as being drawn to the non-elected Invention.

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In view of the amendments and remarks submitted herein, applicant believes that all claims pending in the application are in condition for allowance and respectfully request such allowance. If a telephone conference will expedite prosecution of the application the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,  
McDermott, Will & Emery

Date: 12 - 6 - 04

  
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